

SOLDIERS HARMED BY GLOOM LETTERS FROM BACK HOME

Officers of Dixie Division Appeal to Relatives of Men to Write Cheerful News

Camp Wheeler, Macon, Ga., February 26.—(Special.)—For the good of the army, for the welfare of the service and to make it easier to train in a manner to lick the Germans the officers of the Dixie division are anxious for the people back home to know that heart-rending and homesick letters to the boys of Camp Wheeler keeps them continually unstrung and in a bad mood all the time.

"Some of the letters are so tragic," said one of the officers today who has been making an investigation into guardhouse conditions, "that when the soldier is not allowed to go home on a pass he will desert and then have to serve for a month or more in the guardhouse. After the soldier goes home and hears his chance of ever getting a promotion in a year or so he finds that the home folks were about as he left them.

"We have no real bad men in some of the regiments," but the guardhouses are kept filled all the time with soldiers who could not bear the separation from home when the folks are reported as distressingly sick. I would improve all the people back home to write wholehearted, cheerful letters and then the soldier's life will be so much more pleasant."

J. D. Spaeth, head of the chair of English at Princeton college, temporarily released from the faculty, has arrived at Camp Wheeler to take charge of all educational and social work under the auspices of the army. Young Men's Christian association. He succeeds President James H. Shelbourne of Howard college, who has returned to his home at Birmingham, Ala., after three months' service as camp educational director at Camp Wheeler.

Prof. A. Spaeth is a well known extension lecturer, having several times toured the country from coast to coast, speaking at colleges and before various organizations. Princeton college is paying part of his salary while at Camp Wheeler in the service of the red triangle.

The duty of the new educational director of the Dixie division is to teach English, to a large percentage of the guardsmen of Georgia, Alabama and Florida. French is another one of the important subjects which will be taught under his direction. He has a staff of six assistants, building, educational and social directors, in charge of this work among the men served by their respective red triangle huts.

As coach of the Princeton crew, Professor Spaeth demonstrated to America that the system of amateur coaching was feasible; that professional coaching was not necessary for championship crews. Under his coaching the Tiger crew has been victorious over Harvard and Yale and other famous collegiate crews of the country.

According to figures gathered from the statistical department of the division of the more than 20,000 soldiers in the camp the members of the different religious denominations are as follows: Baptists, 45 per cent; Methodists, 32 per cent; Presbyterians, 6 per cent; Roman Catholics, 5 per cent; Christians, 3 per cent; Episcopalians, 2 per cent; Jewish, 1 per cent; all others, 1 per cent.

NEWS OF ENSLEY

Ensley people are enthused with the garden spirit and each household is cultivating a plot of ground either in the yard or vacant lot. Plowmen are in greater demand than can be supplied and the members of each family are taking active part in preparing the soil. The civic garden committee hopes that all records will be broken in vegetable production this year. Schools are encouraging gardening and the negroes who make an effort will be encouraged. Since the coming of Mr. Mobley and his demonstration of drying vegetables the preservation of food has been simplified and with the already successful canning plant large quantities of food should be conserved this year in Ensley.

Two houses in Fairfield suffered slightly from fires yesterday. The homes of Dr. W. M. Carmichael on Valley road and W. E. Graham on Forty-first street were the ones damaged. The Ensley fire department made quick work and the damages were small.

Friends of John Angwin will be glad to know that he has recovered from a recent attack of pneumonia and is able to be out.

Rev. A. K. Wright of the Ensley Baptist church will give a series of special services during March. The general topic for the morning sermons will be "The Fundamentals of Christianity," with the following topics: "The Christian's God," "Sin and Judgment," "The Voice of the Scriptures," "The Mission of the Church," and "The Claims of Christ."

The evening subjects will be interestingly illustrated by stereopticon views, and are: "Scouting With the Boy Scouts," "The Young Men's Christian Association in the War," "A Message of Music," "The Call of the East," and "Palestine of Today."

Harry Endress is ill at his home on Forty-second street.

County School Fair to Be Held in Franklin

Russellville, February 26.—(Special.)—March 22-23 are the dates set for the first County School fair ever held in Franklin county. An extensive programme has been arranged and is now being mailed out to teachers, parents and school children throughout the county. The fair will be held in this city and it is estimated that not less than 2000 school children will be in the city on the above dates. Field exercises, recitations and contests in fruit and vegetable canning and needlework will constitute the day's programme. Also a move is on foot to have at least one of the severe candidates for governor on hand, which will aid in bringing out a large crowd of Franklin county farmers and business men. A large number of cash and other valuable prizes are offered in the various departments.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

OFFICERS' SCHOOL AT CAMP PIKE MAKING RAPID PROGRESS

Personnel Is Made Up From Pick of Division—Many Alabamians are Enrolled

By C. F. DAVIS
Camp Pike, Little Rock, February 26.—(Special.)—After most careful mental and physical tests the personnel of the third officers' training camp at Camp Pike was selected, and the organization is known by officers as "the pick of the division." The men are now taking an intensive course to fit them for officers. At the close of the course they will be placed on a list in the order of their merit, and from this list the future officers of the division will be drawn. The barracks of the school are used as a model of soldierly neatness for the entire division, and although the men have been in training less than eight weeks, the military precision of their drill has won them compliments from many high military sources. The school consists of two infantry companies and a battery of light artillery, each organization containing about 200 men. Lieut. Col. L. A. I. Chapman is commandant; Maj. Paul C. Potter, senior instructor; Capt. Robert L. Eichelberger, assistant instructor; and Capt. Noland Blass, assistant for artillery. Lieut. C. M. Eisman is adjutant. In addition, Captain Rawliff of the British military mission and Captain Montalant of the French military mission, both veterans of several years' service on the battlefronts of France, are attached to the school headquarters as special instructors, and other officers and non-commissioned officers of the foreign mission are teaching their specialties in grenade throwing, bayonet fighting, gas defense, etc. The company commanders and tactical officers are drawn from the line organizations of the division, but as far as possible the students themselves are given command of the companies, platoons and squads to familiarize them with the art of commanding men. Following are the Alabamians who have been designed for the school:

Leroy B. Barber, Birmingham; John R. Beggs, Mobile; Edward V. Birk, Ensley; William H. Blanton, Huntsville; George C. Bruner, Birmingham; Robert E. Cammack, Grove Hill; Col. R. Carnes, Hamilton; Roy G. Carpenter, Bexar; Oliver A. Chalifoux, Jr., Birmingham; John M. Davis, Birmingham; Floyd E. Day, Selma; Horace R. Drew, Birmingham; Milton J. Easter, Athens; Phil E. Fitcher, Guntersville; Henry G. Giffam, Gadsden; Claude L. Godwin, Birmingham; Copeland W. Guice, Bufala; Lloyd Percy Guice, Birmingham; Thornton E. Guinn, Huntsville; Glenn E. Hill, Oakman; Nathaniel B. Hughes, Birmingham; Earl E. Jackson, Killen; William E. P. Lake, Halesville; Joseph Levy, Birmingham; Thomas H. Linn, Mobile; Fred B. Littlefield, Decatur; John W. McDonald, Bessemer; Guy W. McIntosh, Russellville; A. S. Melroy, Birmingham; Joseph N. McNeil, Vinegar Bend; David L. Martin, Courtland; Henry B. Norton, Florence; John C. Orr, Hartselle; Chester Arthur Patterson, Birmingham; William Columbus Parkins, Pratt City; William C. Petty, Collinsville; Guy Palmer Powe, Tuscaloosa; James Richard Price, Bul. James S. Radcliff, Mobile; Isaac J. Rogers, Villa; Frank Vernon Sergeant, Mobile; John D. Sawyer, Birmingham; Carl H. Schall, Florence; Thomas W. Spriggs, Bessemer; Emmet C. Stockton, Moulton; Sam Zavelo, Brookside.

Appeals Court Decisions

Montgomery, February 26.—(Special.)—Rulings on applications for rehearing in the court of appeals of Alabama Tuesday follow:

Per Curiam—Eddie Scott vs. the state of Alabama, from Washington circuit court; application overruled.

W. R. Thacker vs. the city of Selma, from Dallas circuit court; application overruled.

Lee Cowart vs. the state of Alabama, from Montgomery circuit court; opinion amplified and application overruled.

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad company vs. Lawrence Kelly, from Coffee circuit court; opinion amplified and application overruled.

W. P. Windham vs. the state of Alabama, from Coffee circuit court; application overruled.

R. L. DeBardeleben vs. the state of Alabama, from Elmore circuit court; application overruled.

H. W. Pearson vs. Hancock & Son, from Tallapoosa circuit court; application overruled.

E. H. Beare vs. S. H. Woody, from Coosa circuit court; opinion extended and application overruled.

Frank Moragne, alias, etc. vs. the state of Alabama, from Jefferson criminal court; application overruled.

Ex parte Dave R. King vs. the state of Alabama, from Jefferson criminal court; application overruled.

Owensboro Banking company vs. F. E. Buck, from Bessemer city court; application overruled.

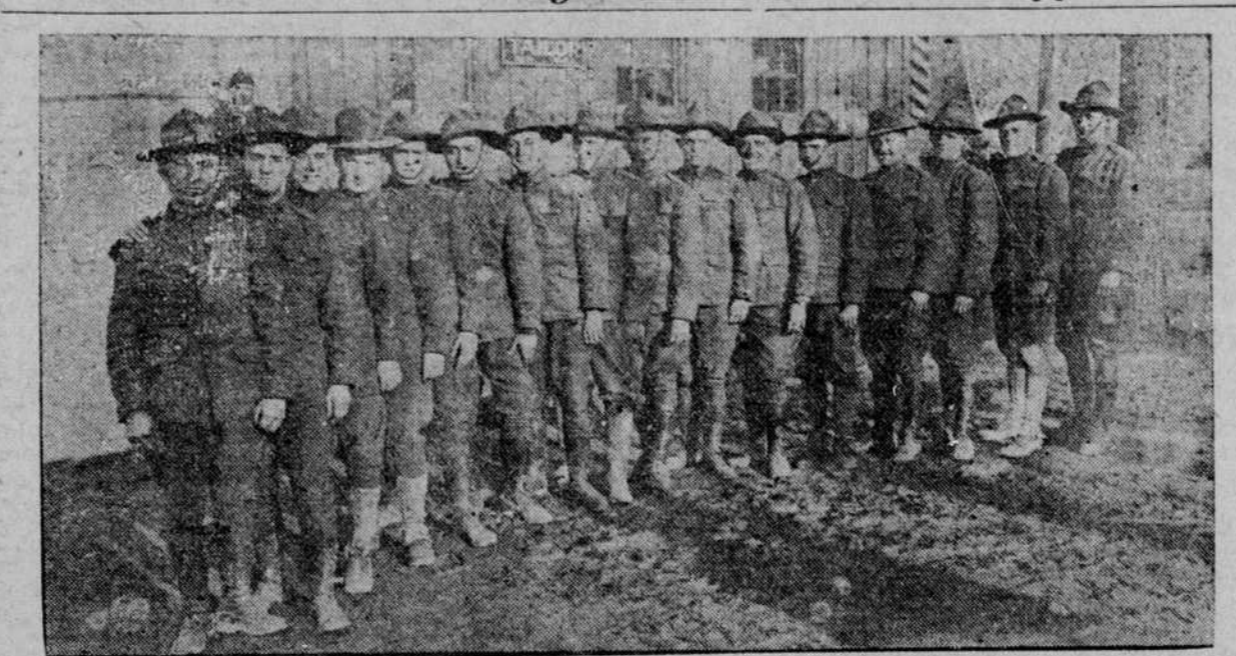
H. B. Wood, as trustee of Walker Lumber company, vs. T. S. Hendon, from Walker circuit court; application overruled.

Frank E. Best vs. the city of Birmingham, from Jefferson criminal court; application overruled.

Birmingham Waterworks company vs. Max Davis, from Jefferson criminal court; application overruled.

Spalding Manufacturing company vs. S. P. Lorren, from Cleburne circuit court; application overruled.

Divisional Minstrel Troupe Will Give "Regular" Bill at Jefferson



Twenty-ninth Divisional Minstrel troupe which will give three performances Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2, heading from left to right they are: Sergt. Alec Porter, Mickey Fox, Bob Grigott, Ray Leavitt, Bill Small, Dick Kirschbaum, Earl Grimes, Hurley Thacker, Bill Jederbrock, Henry Burkes, Bill Kane, George Barry, Bill Wright, Harold Haberle, James Smith and A. G. Dunham.

The first part of the production, "Minstrelsy of 1918," to be presented at the Jefferson theatre Friday and Saturday by the Twenty-ninth Divisional Minstrel troupe of Camp McClellan contains a charming array of musical hits, both song and instrumental.

One of the big features in this respect is Mickey Fox's "Wild Wild Women." The inimitable Mickey, who has the reputation of being the funniest man in Jersey, has always proven one of the star numbers in the production and a treat is in store for those fortunate enough to see him. Supplementing Mickey's feature is "The Divisional Quartet," the finest soldier quartet in the world, being composed of P. J. Murray, Robert Tillery, William Holt and Herbert Sears.

This quartet which has been recognized by one of the largest phonograph companies in the world, for whom they will make records in the near future, will render selections dear to the ear of the enlisted man. As they are themselves enlisted men their interpretation of the songs is certain to be melodiously vivid and accurate.

Other song hits responsible for the high standard of the entertainment are furnished by Earl Grimes, "the sweetest

tenor in the army;" Sergt. Alec Porter, Corp. Dick Kirschbaum, Hurley Thacker, R. B. Tillery, Bill Kane, Bill Wright, Bob Guyett, Ray Leavitt and Bill Small. Wright's delineation of "The Spaniard That Blighted My Life," together with Small's "Dixie Volunteers" and Kirschbaum's "You Can't Tell the Mothers From the Daughters" are conspicuously clever. Sergeant Porter's "The Three Trees" is a novel offering combining singing with an ingenious bit of piano accompaniment.

Martie, the famous female impersonator, will appear in classical Russian, Grecian and Hawaiian dances in beautiful costumes, special scenery and genuine Hula string bands.

Feliz St. Angelo will introduce the latest song success, "We're Marching On to Berlin," written and composed by Mrs. Harry Walstrum of Birmingham, and A. Traxler, leader of the Lyric orchestra. The future of the song will undoubtedly be wonderful, as it is unusually catchy and clever.

Private Ruggles, who made such a big hit in Birmingham last week, will be seen again, featuring "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," one of the most beautiful ballads ever written.

Interspersing the musical numbers are

lagger, post chaplain, arrived in Birmingham yesterday to finish all plans for the big show. Rev. O'Gallagher, who is the minstrel boys' "father," was formerly of St. Paul's Catholic church of Birmingham and comes here as sponsor for the occasion.

West Point Coach Arrives
West Point, N. Y., February 26.—Hans Lobert, the army's new baseball coach,

arrived here today from Cuba and immediately went to work in the cage with a big squad of cadets. O'Gallagher, all-round athlete, will captain the nine this spring.

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